SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Farmers are suffering. I would like to say that arrangements should be made to provide more prices to farmers for cotton.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It has been recorded.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : The scientific community of our country is perturbed over the recent Government decision, particularly the scientists belonging to the Department of Bio-technology at the ICMR. They had expressed a grave concern over the recent Government decision allowing a United State multinational company known as Crogene Incorporated to set up a Human Genetic Centre at New Delhi with a Chain of genetic testing centres in major cities of the country. It is feared that they would send the blood samples to their parent organisations with which they are in collaboration. It will be disastrous for our country, for our population, for our racial gene variety and for all these things. The Government should reconsider its decision. The scientific community had already approached the Government in this connection. This is a very serious matter. No blood samples belonging to the Indian population should be allowed to be sent back to the USA for studying of the gene and all these things. This has got serious consequences. I draw the attention of this Government with a demand that there should be a reconsideration and that this organisation should not be allowed to go through this test.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the House stands adjourned for lunch till forty-five minutes past two of the clock.

13.44 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Forty-Five Minutes past Two of the clock.

14.50 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Fifty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

(Mr. Deputy Speaker *in the chair*)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to publish the Report of Inter-Ministerial Committee on concessions to Graduate Engineers (Mining) in First Class Management Examination

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih) : Sir, no relaxation is being given to the Graduate Mining Engineers for appearing in the first class Management examination conducted by Directorate- General of Mining Security, whereas outside the junior engineers are allowed to take this examination. If junior engineers are selected through this examination, the Graduate Mining Engineers feel uncomfortable in working with them and also the departmental efficiency declines. This system was in force during British Rule when our country lacked high standard Engineering Education institutions. Graduate Mining Engineers had boycotted the above examination conducted by D.G.M.S. in 1990 against this system. Therefore, Inter-Ministerial Committee was constituted, which had submitted its report in 1993. But this report has not been published so far.

Therefore, the Government are urged upon to give relaxation to Graduate Mining Engineers in the first class Management examination and the report of the said committee may be published.

(ii) Need to Restore Ganga-Yamuna Link Express from Mathura

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY TEJVIR SINGH (Mathura) : Till some time ago six bogies of Ganga-Yamuna Express were started from Mathura. These six bogies were running from Mathura to Tundla junctions via Agra, Rajamandi and Agra City to join the main Ganga-Yamuna Express at Tundla junction. But at present the historical, religious and industrial city of Mathura has been ignored and the rail facility which was provided from Mathura for Lucknow and Varanasi has been withdrawn. As a result, people of this area are facing many difficulties.

Therefore, Sir, through you, I would like to request the hon. Railway Minister to restore the service of Ganga-Yamuna Link Express for Mathura and to link it at Tundla junction.

(iii) Need for construction of overbridges between Calicut and Manjeswaram

[English]

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore) : The northern part of Kerala, i.e. the Malabar region is most neglected in almost all spheres of development including Railways. Discontentment looms large among the people of this part of Kerala. Time and again the urgent necessity of improvements on Railways have been brought to the notice of the authorities. In spite of this no action whatsoever has been taken to improve the Railway services in this sector. The Railway level crossings from Calicut to Manjeswaram are causing immense delay and inconvenience to the public travelling by road. In a short distance of 100 kms. from Calicut to Cannanore there are eight Railway crossings on the National Highway. This is a clear indication of the indifferent attitude taken by the Railways towards the problems of the people of this area. From Cannanore to Manjeswaram also there are many more Railway crossings. With the opening of the Konkan Railway the frequency of trains will now increase and it will be

practically impossible for passengers travelling by road to reach their destinations in time.

I, therefore, earnestly request the hon. Minister of Railways to take urgent steps to remove these bottlenecks by constructing sufficient number of overbridges from Calicut to Manjeswaram without any delay.

(iv) Need to provide more railway facilities to Siliguri and New Jalpaiguri

[English]

PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri) : I like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that North Bengal has been neglected in the field of Railway communication since long. The people of the area have been demanding the following since long but practically getting no result, leading to a serious agitation in the area:-

1. Gauge conversion of Siliguri Junction to Alipurduar Junction and Siliguri to New Jalpaiguri. Siliguri being an important place of this region, it should be connected with broad gauge without delay.
2. Running of Guwahati Rajdhani Express daily.
3. Introduction of a Shatabdi Express from Calcutta to New Jalpaiguri.
4. Introduction of a superfast train from Coochbehar to Calcutta.
5. Bifurcation of the Teesta-Tersha Express and running it separately one from Haldibari and another from New Jalpaiguri.
6. Introduction of express trains from New Jalpaiguri to all the important places of the country.
7. Provision of more train services between New Jalpaiguri and Calcutta and construction of double line from New Jalpaiguri to Guwahati.

I do urge upon the Government to take necessary steps so that the above said legitimate and long standing demands may be fulfilled at an early date.

(v) Need to provide job to a Member of each family whose land was acquired by IFFCO in Bareilly, U.P.

[Translation]

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH (Aonla) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the time of acquiring land for the IFFCO factory at Bareilly district of Uttar Pradesh, it was assured that besides the compensation of land, one person from each of the affected family would be provided job according to his qualifications. This factory has been working here since long but so far no job has been provided to any member of the affected families whereas thousands of appointments have been made in this factory. The farmers whose land was acquired, are facing great difficulties for earning their livelihood and their families are on the verge of starvation. Some persons of the affected families have been appointed on daily wages after repeated requests. They remain jobless for months together. Factory Administration has not regularised their services so far. They have launched several agitations in this regard. This area falls in my constituency. Therefore, through you I urge upon the Government that at least one member of the affected families, whose land have been acquired, should be provided employment and the daily wage workers should also be regularised at the earliest so that injustice committed against these poor farmers may be compensated.

(vi) Need to Convert the existing Low Power T.V. Transmitter into High Power Transmitter at Nagarkurnool in Andhra Pradesh

[English]

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagarkurnool) : In the Nagarkurnool Taluka of Mahbubnagar District, Andhra Pradesh, a Low Power Transmitter has been functioning. As a result of which, reception of television programmes is not clear throughout Nagarkurnool Taluka. Moreover, parts of Nagarkurnool Lok Sabha constituency is a naxalite-infested area. If proper transmission arrangements are made, the people can be enlightened about the developmental programmes of the Government through audiovisual media. But, now the reception of television programmes remains blurred in the rural areas and people are unable to view the programmes transmitted by the Doordarshan. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to convert the existing Low Power TV Transmitter at Nagarkurnool into a High Power Transmitter at an LPT may be installed at Kolapur, Achampet and Amangal of Kalwakurthy Assembly segments of Nagarkurnool Parliamentary constituency. Action may also be taken for early completion of the LPT projects at Jadcherla and Achampet Assembly segments of Nagarkurnool Parliamentary constituency in Andhra Pradesh. The height of the most of the proposed HPT and LPT should be increased so that the people in the rural are are also able to watch the Doordarshan programmes clearly.

15.00 hrs.

(vii) Need to Protect the Western Ghat Area proposed to be Leased out for exploration of Minerals

[English]

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (Shimoga) : Sir, there are about 60 lakh hectares area in the Western Ghat area comprising Sagar, Saroba and Shimoga Taluks in